

April 2005

WEBWORTHY

Pamela M. Rose M.L.S.
University at Buffalo, pmrose@buffalo.edu

Follow this and additional works at: <https://docs.lib.purdue.edu/atg>



Part of the [Library and Information Science Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Rose, Pamela M. M.L.S. (2005) "WEBWORTHY," *Against the Grain*: Vol. 17: Iss. 2, Article 40.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.4821>

This document has been made available through Purdue e-Pubs, a service of the Purdue University Libraries. Please contact epubs@purdue.edu for additional information.

Rumors from page 14

notification for forthcoming journal releases, and providing advance notice of changes in journal release schedules. A copy of the **SRN Draft for Review**, along with a background statement and message examples, may be found on the **JWP Website** at <http://www.fccla.edu/%7Epcaplan/jwp/>.

Don't spread this around, please, but those who know me well, know that I have absolutely no sense of direction. If I was inside a paper bag, I couldn't find my way out. Anyway, I was recently in Washington, DC., alone, looking for a cab late at night (after the opening of the **WebWise Conference**) when what to my lost eyes should appear but two angel librarians from **Tennessee** who showed me where I should be going. Who were they? They are frequent attendees at the **Charleston Conference**. If these wonderful women happen to be reading this, please write and let me thank you again. Librarians are such wonderful people.

From **Peter Scott's Library Blog**: <bloglet@bloglet.com> — The 1871 census is available online, in full, for the first time. Thanks to a new initiative by **The National Archives** <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/news/stories/60.htm?source=main> and *Ancestry.co.uk*, you can search the index by name and look at scans of original records of the famous, and not so famous. This latest launch means visitors to the **National Ar-**

chives Website will now be able to trace their families through four successive censuses, 1871, 1881, 1891 and 1901. Searching the index is free. <http://blog.xrefer.com>

During the week of April 4th, **Ingenta** will be completing the final work required to retire **IngentaSelect** and move all users over to the new site **IngentaConnect**. For specific questions, contact **Amel Abourachid** (Library Business Manager) <amel.abourachid@ingenta.com> or visit the Ingenta Website. www.ingentaconnect.com

Have you looked at *Future Libraries: Dreams, Madness, & Reality* by **Walt Crawford** and **Michael Gorman** (ALA, 1995) recently? The book is ten years old, can you believe it, and **Walt** says that he is going to reread it and publish an honest evaluation in *Cites & Insights*. To learn much more, read **Walt Crawford: A YBP Interview** at http://www.ybp.com/ybp/DomIndex.html?cites_interview.html&l.

With links to **Marylaine Block's 2002 Ex Libris** interview with **Walt**: <http://marylaine.com/exlibris/xlib160.html>.

And **Walt Crawford's** home page: <http://walt.crawford.home.att.net/>.

And, speaking of **Michael Gorman, President-elect of ALA**, (and a speaker who got a standing ovation when he spoke in Charleston), be sure and read **In My Humble But Correct Opinion (IMHBCO)** by **Rick Anderson**, this issue, p.92.

Heard from **Becky Fishman** <becky.fishman@xrefer.com> who has recently taken over the **PR responsibilities** at **Xrefer** from **Ellen McCullough**. Anyway, Becky sends news that **McGraw-Hill** has agreed to license some of its key reference titles for inclusion in the **Xreferplus** service. This brings the number of publisher partners currently working with **Xrefer** to 42. <http://www.xrefer.com/news/index.jsp?m=2>

From **OCLC Abstracts** (March 14, 2005) — Courtesy of **Alan Williamson's** blog — "The prime reason the **Google** home page is so bare is due to the fact that the founders didn't know HTML and just wanted a quick interface. • They listen to feedback actively. Emailing **Google** isn't emailing a blackhole. • **Google** uses the 20/5 rule. If at least 20 percent of people use a feature, they include it. At least 5 percent need to use a particular search before it will make it into Advanced Preferences. • The name **Google** was an accident, a spelling mistake for Googol. • The I Feel Lucky button is hardly ever used. However, in trials it was found that removing it would somehow reduce the **Google** experience. Users wanted it kept. It was a comfort button." <http://www5.oclc.org/downloads/design/abstracts/index.htm>

<http://alan.blog-city.com/read/1003011.htm>

Edge Hill College of Higher Education, in Ormskirk, U.K., has selected **Millennium** after an evaluation process which included visits to other

continued on page 18

WEBWORTHY

Column Editor: **Pamela M. Rose, M.L.S.** (Web Services & Library Promotion Coordinator, Health Sciences Library, University at Buffalo; Phone: 716-829-3900 x129; Fax: 716-829-2211) <pmrose@buffalo.edu> wings.buffalo.edu/~pmrose

Webworthy has reviewed 334 Websites to date! Are you reading this intro? If so, we'd like to know if you find this column useful! Email the editor at <pmrose@buffalo.edu> with your comments and any suggestions for improvement!

*Websites are chosen for uniqueness, depth of information, functionality and ease of access. Sites are organized by broad subject area and are visited just prior to publication. Please let the editor know of any broken links. Comments and suggestions welcome to **Pamela M. Rose**, Health Sciences Library, University at Buffalo, 3435 Main St., Buffalo, NY 14214-3002; 716-829-3900 x129; <pmrose@buffalo.edu>. Unless otherwise noted, Internet sites were also reviewed in **Science's NetWatch** column. — PR*

Chemistry

Giving Jane and Dick a real look at potentially explosive lab experiments before they enter the school lab, or use that chemistry set, is one of the advantages of **Creative Chemistry on the Internet (CCI)**, an initiative of the **Swiss Federal Institute of Technology** in Zurich. Some 200 experiments (147 of them have been translated into English) can be located by topic, keyword or element, and then viewed as a movie, slide show, or picture — all with accompanying text, chemical formulas, safety precautions and references. The movies show the reactions from several different viewpoints: looking down directly into the beaker or slide dish, from the side, and from an angle at the top. — <http://www.cci.ethz.ch/>



Science

Have advances in modern medicine put an end to human evolution? Can we really travel in time? Watch and listen to experts discuss these fascinating questions at **The Vega Science Trust**, a nonprofit group that broadcasts science programs over the Internet free of charge. The site also has a wonderful archive of children's workshops and downloadable school science packs for teachers. On a personal note they offer face to face interviews with notable scientists such as **Fred Sanger**, as well as a focus on outstanding women scientists. Links include other free science program sites. — <http://www.vega.org.uk/>

Taxonomy

Unlike other **Wiki** projects (see below), **Wikispecies** is aimed at the needs of scientific users: it hopes to create what no one has been able to accomplish in more than 200 years: a list of the world's known species. The project is still new, but includes data down to the Species level in Animalia, with more superficial entries in Rotifera, Insecta, and Rodentia, with entries needed for Plantae, Fungi, Archaea, Bacteria, and Protista. The project organizers hope that everyone from biologists to amateur birders will lend their know-how to adding 1.8 million different kinds of living things. (**Wiki** — originally based on a Hawaiian term wiki wiki which means superfast — is a term used to identify a Website that allows users to add content. The **Wikimedia Foundation** now oversees a number of free user-developed sites including **Wikipedia** — the free encyclopedia — **Wiktionary**, **Wikiquote**, **Wikibooks**, and now **Wikispecies**.) — http://species.wikipedia.org/wiki/Main_Page

NOTE: **Webworthy** previously reviewed the **All Species Foundation** initiative (see *ATG*, v.14 no.6, Dec. 2002-Jan. 2003, p.91), which has the same goal as **Wikispecies**. However, funding problems have called a halt to the project, which is down to one staff member and a dream. — <http://www.all-species.org/> 